

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814



April 1, 1992

ALL-COUNTY LETTER NO. 92-34

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
ALL CHIEF PROBATION OFFICERS

SUBJECT: AFDC-FC WORK/SCHOOL REGISTRATION

REFERENCE: EAS 42-100, 42-790, 45-202.11, 45-201.111,
and 45-202.212(a)

The above referenced manual citations describe:

- (1) the school registration requirement in Aid to Families with Dependent Children-Foster Care (AFDC-FC) for continuing eligibility for children up to age 19; and
- (2) Greater Avenues for Independence Act (GAIN) mandatory work registration for a foster child between the age of 16 to 18 who is not attending high school, vocational, or technical school full-time and whose caretaker relative has opted for participation in the AFDC-Family Group/Unemployed Parent Program (AFDC-FG/U) rather than participation in the AFDC-FC Program.

AFDC-FC SCHOOL REGISTRATION REQUIREMENT

School registration is a requirement for continuing AFDC-FC eligibility for children in foster care from age 18 to 19. Eligibility & Assistance Standards (EAS) Manual Section 45-201.111, in pertinent part, provides for continuation of AFDC-FC payments after a child in foster care reaches age 18 if several conditions are met: (1) the child was receiving AFDC-FC and attending high school or a vocational technical training program on a full-time basis prior to reaching age 18, (2) continues to meet all AFDC-FC eligibility requirements, (3) resides in foster care, (4) attends on a full-time basis either a high school or, if the child has not completed high school, a vocational/technical training program which cannot result in a college degree, and (5) signs a mutual agreement to remain in foster care with the placing agency. The above requirements are the same as those noted in All-County Letter 89-42.

The school registration requirement contained in EAS 45-201.111, as noted above, is the only school registration requirement for children funded under the AFDC-FC Program.

It has come to our attention that Counties may have taken a literal reading of EAS 42-100 referenced at EAS 45-201.11 which might suggest that work/school requirements, as noted, apply to all children funded under both the AFDC-FG/U and AFDC-FC Programs. This is true only with respect to the first part of 42.101.1, which reads: "A child meets the age requirement for AFDC eligibility until his/her 18th birthday." The remainder of EAS 42.101 applies to children funded under AFDC-FG/U not AFDC-FC.

Where a foster care child may be eligible for funding either under AFDC-FG/U or AFDC-FC and the caretaker relative with whom placed opts for participation in the AFDC-FG/U Program, that child shall be treated in all respects as participating in the AFDC-FG/U Program (EAS 45-202.212(a)). In this case, the child would be subject to all the provisions of EAS 42-100.

GAIN MANDATORY WORK REGISTRATION

As stated above, if the foster child is Federally eligible for AFDC-FC, was placed with a caretaker relative, and that caretaker relative selected the AFDC-FG/U Program, the case would be treated in all respects as an AFDC-FG/U case. In this respect, the child would be a mandatory GAIN participant subject to work registration (EAS 42-790).

In no instance is work registration to be considered an eligibility factor under AFDC-FC.

If you have any further questions concerning these issues, please contact your Foster Care Policy Analyst at (916) 445-0813.



LOREN D. SUTER
Deputy Director
Adult & Family Services Division

cc: CWDA